

FEB 1952 51-4AA

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

BY CABLE

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 8 October 1952

SUBJECT The Effect of the Supply Shortage on Communist  
Military Tactics

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1C  
DATE OF  
INFO. [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE  
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1X

THE FOLLOWING REPORT WAS PREVIOUSLY  
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1. The present enemy battle tactics in use across the battlefield can be sustained until the end of November 1952, with supplies stockpiled in supply dumps in the vicinity of the front line and in rear areas of North Korea by September 1952. But unless the flow of supplies from Manchuria increases, the Chinese Communist and North Korean forces will be obliged to revert to their defensive maneuvers of early summer.
2. In early September Chinese Communist officers predicted that the United Nations air effort would be challenged by mid-October, since the Chinese Communist and North Korean air forces were promised increased air support by the USSR and would be able to harass United Nations fighter bombers attacking the main supply routes. Supplies are available in large quantity across the Yalu river. However, until increased air cover is available, line units must stretch their supplies to the limit.
3. Present Chinese Communist and North Korean army tactics, termed "localized restraint operations," are designed to gain strategic terrain features. Units engaging United Nations forces are instructed to conduct lightning attacks with heavy small arms support and with sporadic concentrations of artillery fire in adjacent sectors during contact. They are also instructed to avoid deep penetrations of United Nations lines, accomplishing just their set objective.
4. These tactics are to be employed indefinitely. If the supply situation becomes critical or if the United Nations air strikes inflict heavy damage on the

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remaining supply depots and strategic installations before the Chinese Communist and North Korean air cover can be established, the truce negotiators at P'anmunjom are prepared to take steps toward a cease-fire agreement.

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